

CITY OF REDMOND ARTS COMMISSION

MINUTES

Televised Meeting

September 9, 2004

Public Safety Building – Council Chambers

“Voice the views of the community to Mayor and City Council in reference to all cultural endeavors.”

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chairperson Phil Teller, Vice Chair Kay Tarapolsi, Jill Schmidt, Heidi Houghton, Latha Sambamurti, Roy Leban, Abbott Smith, Katie Innes. Youth advocates Nicole Rollofson and Julia Moreno

ABSENT AND EXCUSED: Yvette Waters

STAFF PRESENT: Melna Skillingstead, Arts Administrator; Sandra Bettencourt, Recreation Program Manager; Pam Maybee, Recording Secretary

AUDIENCE PRESENT: Jenna Robinson, Miguel Llanos

.

AGENDA

Note: Bold/italic text denotes Staff and Commissioner follow-up resulting from this meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Phil Teller called to order the *televised* regular meeting of the Redmond Arts Commission (RAC) at 7:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building Council Chambers.

Notations: Teller welcomed the newest youth advocate to the RAC, Julia Moreno, a senior at Redmond High School. Julia expressed a passion for visual arts. She desires to integrate art with youth and adults in the community, and act as a catalyst for her peers.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Redmond Arts Commission (RAC) minutes of August 12, 2004 were approved with the following amendments:

- Page 3, prior to second paragraph (motion): Add: Tarapolsi reported that Houghton accepted the position as grant chair.
- Page 7, second bullet: change to read, "...in 1996, and currently have 89 pieces."

Motion for approval of the RAC minutes of August 12, 2004 as amended by:

Commissioner Schmidt

Second by: Commissioner Tarapolsi

Motion carried: 8-0 unanimous

Tarapolsi noted that the committee chair notes in the RAC minutes have been containing redundant information to that discussed at the general RAC meetings. She reminded Commissioners that the reason for submitting abbreviated committee notes for the minutes was to cover items that would not be mentioned in the general meeting, to allow time at the general meeting for other discussion. By Commissioners reading the abbreviated committee notes, they would be kept apprised of all items done by each committee.

Schmidt also encouraged Commissioners to read the minutes prior to coming to the RAC meetings to be informed as to each of the RAC programs.

III. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Visual Arts:

- General Updates – Skillingstead

Arts Education:

- Committee Update

IV. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Miguel Llanos, Redmond Historical Society, proposed a heritage art show for spring/summer 2005. They would like to promote it in conjunction with RAC, Derby Days, and the Eastside Fine Arts Association. He showed an invitation to Commissioners and asked them to consider participating in developing the show, which would be a June/early July exhibit in the Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center (ORSCC).

In addition, Llanos stated that the Society is hoping for grant money to award cash prizes. They are also asking the City to provide a month-long space at ORSCC for the favorite artist. Schmidt noted that space was tentatively reserved at ORSCC for the show. Tarapolsi asked

Llanos to let the Commission know when they would be selecting pieces so that a representative from RAC could be present to help.

Llanos is hoping to promote the event by tying-in with Derby Days. ***Commissioners may email their comments to Skillingstead; she will forward them to Llanos.***

Skillingstead suggested that the invitation stipulate the City's insurance coverage policy/limitations for the art.

Llanos noted that photos from 50-60 years ago might be accepted as an art piece in the exhibit. Skillingstead emphasized the Society must decide that. Houghton believed they were two separate forms—historical photos and artwork—and that the historical photos should not be a part of the art exhibit. Schmidt agreed that historical photos were not in the same category as art. Leban suggested historical photos could be shown in addition to, or next to, the art (e.g., place a historical photo taken of an art piece next to that same art piece). He agreed that historical photos were not art. He also suggested defining in the brochure who would win the prize.

Llanos confirmed that the call to artists would be going out to all amateurs and professionals, not just Eastside Association of Fine Arts (EAFA). He anticipated it would take two months to complete the draft prior to sending out.

Houghton noted the Visual Arts Committee would discuss the proposal at their next meeting, September 27.

V. GENERAL RAC BUSINESS

A. Chair/Vice Chair

Teller invited the viewing audience to guess this meeting's theme by the clues Commissioners were wearing or displaying. Whoever could guess the theme was invited to meet the Commissioners at the Coho Café following the meeting to win a token prize.

B. Continuing Business –Task List

Tarapolsi circulated the task list, asking Commissioners to write the date when the task was completed. She would then move the completed task to the historical part of the document.

C. October meeting at Teen Center

Houghton reported she met with Shannon Roach of the Old Fire House Teen Center to discuss holding the RAC October meeting there. They proposed starting the meeting at 6:30 p.m. for a tour of the teen programs, and to discuss how RAC might help the teens with their projects. Schmidt suggested also discussing the proposed Teen/Senior Visual Art

Display in the ORSCC gallery program. Tarapolsi encouraged the new youth advocate, Julia Moreno, to participate with ideas, since the Center promotes teens and their art.

RAC agreed to hold their next meeting at the Teen Center. Skillingstead will check on availability for the October 14 date at the Teen Center.

D. November meeting date

Skillingstead noted that the November RAC meeting date falls on the Veteran's Day holiday this year. ***Commissioners agreed to shift the meeting to the third Thursday in November, 11/18/04.***

VI. Arts Education/ Grants

A. Project(s) Status

1. Grants

Houghton announced the deadlines for the two grants:

- Organizational Support Grant: October 15, 2004
- Arts Education Grant: November 5, 2004

For those interested in more information, they may call Skillingstead or go online to the City's website and follow the links to the grant material, which includes the grant forms to submit.

2. Washington Alliance for Arts Education (WAAE) Membership

Schmidt relayed thanks from Una McAlinden, Executive Director of WAAE, to the RAC for their membership in the organization.

3. Committee Meeting Report (E-mailed)

None

B. Funding/Marketing

None

C. New Business

1. New Chair – Abbott Smith

Smith and Schmidt met to discuss the history of the Arts Education Committee, i.e., the LWSD and Redmond elementary schools relative to the K-6 curriculum project. Smith noted the project finished with the curriculum's development stage, and is now at a

sustained mode. The question must be addressed as to how to keep the project sustained. In their next meeting they will discuss the following:

- Identify the primary goal of how to keep the curriculum project sustained
- Re-coordinate with the current PTSA docent system in Redmond
- Continue to use the docent materials
- Look into evaluating content of the docent materials, i.e., the list, to identify low cost alternatives to meet the goals

Smith invited Commissioners to participate on the Arts Education Committee. He would also contact his own business committee and other arts educators in Redmond to encourage activity on the committee as well. Houghton noted that a committee member need not be a resident of Redmond.

Smith listed additional goals of the committee:

- Continue to stay in relationship with Una McAlinden
- Focus on alternatives to arts education regarding continuing education for adults, e.g., integrate colleges and their student bodies for volunteer educators to do training

Schmidt reported that she and McAlinden signed up for ArtsTime in March to present possibly seven lessons from the K-6 workshop. She also asked Commissioners that The Washington State PTA Class/Workshop Presentations for the 2005 Convention be considered as an additional venue for presenting.

Motion for approval to complete the application to present the lessons at the Washington State PTA Call for Class/Workshop Presentations for the 2005

Convention by: Commissioner Schmidt

Second by: Commissioner Tarapolsi

Motion carried: 8-0 unanimous

Schmidt expressed that Washington State may cut back more on special areas, such as the arts, in order to focus more strongly on the basics. But there is still the possibility that the State may include the arts as one of the WASL assessment. The lessons do meet the Washington State essential learning criteria that the state level developed. She also emphasized that it is important to re-establish with the docents to introduce them to the program, until a WASL requirement is mandated by the state.

Schmidt explained the docent program as volunteer PTA members who teach art in the classroom, generally once a month. Those interested in becoming a docent may participate in the following ways:

- 1) Come to an Arts Education Committee meeting
- 2) Sign up to be a docent in their individual school to teach art in the school
- 3) Contact Skillingstead, Smith, or their own individual school

- 4) Check the City's web site for updated docent training information as it becomes available

Leban volunteered to make a poster based on a lesson. Schmidt will contact McAlinden for the information he needs. Leban also suggested revisiting converting the first book into a PDF file; he volunteered to work on this, also.

D. Youth Advocate Report

Youth advocate Rollofson reported on her involvement with the Drama Nationals.

This year, Rollofson and Julia Moreno are seniors at Redmond High School, so they will be looking for other volunteers at their school to replace their advocate positions when their terms are completed.

E. Staff Reports

None

VII. Performing / Literary Arts

A. Project(s) Status

1. Arts in the Parks Recap

Sambamurti reported on the completed and successful Arts in the Parks series with shows held at Anderson Park, Microsoft Campus, Redmond Town Center, and the Redmond Teen Center. All shows were well attended. Artists and attendees alike particularly enjoyed the venue of Anderson Park. Sambamurti thanked those who helped to sponsor the series, including 4Culture, Microsoft Corporation, Redmond Town Center, and the Redmond Tourism Development.

2. Winter Performance Series Program Recommendation

The Performing Arts Committee met September 7 to discuss details of the upcoming Winter Performance Series. Sambamurti will email details of the meeting minutes to Commissioners after this night's meeting. Sambamurti explained that the budget allows three high-quality shows in the series. They will be performed in the winter months of January 29 to mid-February (tentative), over three consecutive Saturday nights, all starting at 7:00 p.m. Tarapolsi asked for a volunteer sign-up sheet; *Sambamurti will prepare a sign-up sheet.*

The committee reviewed all material and selected six artists as finalists; three will be chosen. Rose Hill Junior High is the prospective venue for the performances. Cost is \$7.00 for all shows, ages six years and up; shows are free to those five years and

younger. Performances will be publicized through the usual channels: one ad in the paper (due to limited budget), and a sponsorship drive (*Sambamurti will prepare the letters; Skillingstead will mail to businesses next week*).

Commissioners reviewed a spreadsheet of the six artists' groups with fee information on each. Sambamurti asked that one be chosen from each of the three categories: music, music/dance combination, and family fun. She showed audio and slide previews of the six artists. *Commissioners will e-mail their performance choices to her by September 12.* The Performing Arts Committee recommended Nueva Era (music), Magical Strings (music/dance), and Brothers from Different Mothers (family fun).

Teller announced to the television audience that if they, as an individual or corporation, wish to make donations to the program, they may contact Skillingstead, at 425-556-2316.

3. Committee Meeting Report (E-mailed)

The Performing Arts Committee met September 7, 2004 with these attendees present: Latha Sambamurti, Pat Pattabhiraman, and Melna Skillingstead.

a. Meeting Summary

The meeting was devoted to discussing the strategies and plans for the 2005 Winter Performance Series (WPS05), along the lines of the following aspects:*

- 1) projected budget
- 2) format and content of the series
- 3) shortlist of artists
- 4) ticket pricing
- 5) publicity
- 6) spot sponsorship drive
- 7) miscellaneous

(*Please see VII.A.2. of the 9/9/04 RAC minutes for details of the above aspects not present hereunder.)

b. Projected budget

- \$7,000 is available for spending on the series.
- Of this amount, approximately \$4,000 is earmarked for: venue rentals, sound system, staff, flyer paper, printing & mailing, and newspaper ad.
- This leaves us with approx. \$3,000 for artist fees (for the three shows in the series).

c. Shortlist of artists

The following is the shortlist of artists from which the performers for WPS'05 will be chosen:

- Brothers from Different Mothers (“juggling comedians”)
- Magical Strings (Celtic music and dance)
- Ancient Sounds (World, ethnic, new age & multicultural music)
- Carmona Flamenca (Flamenco music and dance)
- Thistle Theatre (Japanese Bunraku puppetry)
- Nueva Era (High-energy salsa music)

d. Publicity

We will publicize the series through the following means:

- Flyers (formatted similar to the recent summer Arts in the Parks series flyer/poster combination, with space for photos and descriptions of artists)
- One advertisement in the Redmond Reporter
- *FOCUS* magazine
- Redmond Recreation Guide
- The City of Redmond website
- RCTV Channel 21
- The RAC phone info line
- Various internet-based event listings and calendars
- Press releases
- “Niche” businesses, locations or organizations that attract people who are most likely to be interested in the given event

e. Miscellaneous

Based on the experience from the 2004 WPS (administrative overhead and cost not being worth the benefits), we will not present a concession stand at any of the events. Moreover, concession stands are generally used during intermissions, and the WPS'05 shows will not have any intermission.

B. Funding/Marketing

None

C. New Business

None

D. Staff Reports

None

VIII. Visual Arts

A. Project(s) Status

1. Redmond Outdoor Sculpture (ROS)

Tarapolsi announced her resignation as the ROS curator. She explained that if RAC desires to continue acting as advisory board, then hiring a curator should be considered. She emphasized strongly that the ROS is a very large job, and should require hiring someone to do it. Tarapolsi reported that Innes agreed to take over as head of the project in the interim, until a professional could be hired, if that was the will of the Commission.

Tarapolsi reported she contacted City Council requesting financial support. Both Council members Richard Cole and Nancy McCormick responded positively; however, since it is a financially tight year, there is no City money to help. They supported similar avenues that the City of Puyallup uses, i.e., downtown businesses and the Hotel/Motel tax funding. They referred Tarapolsi to Councilperson Tom Paine, head of the Hotel/Motel tax committee. ***She will report at the next RAC meeting with follow up to his suggestions.***

Tarapolsi requested a motion be made to support finding a curator and for funding the project via a grant support, Hotel/Motel funds, and/or other means of financial support. She suggested the next year's ROS deadline could be pushed back until a curator was hired. Schmidt reported that RAC does have a budget to support the show every year. She proposed using that money to fund a position while looking for extra funding (e.g., grants) for the artists.

Business proposals have been sent to 50 Redmond businesses, inviting them to sponsor an artist and site for the 2005-06 ROS program. Tarapolsi has spoken with 14 of them, and will continue until conclusions are reached. She has received two affirmative responses from the following:

- First Mutual Bank (they wish to have the art on land in front of their building located at Redmond Way and Avondale Way)
- Tenhulzen Remodeling Inc.

She has also received three pending responses:

- Victor's Coffee Co.(or all businesses in that strip mall)
- Safeco Insurance (they wish to sponsor an art piece listed on a plaque or in the brochure, but not locate the art on their property)
- A strip mall that includes LA Spas, Redmond Thai, Hobbytown, and Swing Doctors

Tarapolsi expressed thanks to Carrie Dossick and Brad Blevins, two ROS committee volunteers, who were instrumental in securing commitments from these businesses.

The opening of ROS is scheduled for September 18, 2004, 9:00 a.m., in front of Larry's Market at Redmond Town Center. Richard Ruiz, graphic designer, is working on the brochures. They would be ready by the end of next week. Tarapolsi showed a draft design of the cover of the brochure, noting Ruiz also did the postcards for mailing. She reported that REI donated a GPS system for locating the pieces; this would be included in the brochure.

Next year, businesses that sponsor will be included in the brochure, with their name listed next to the piece, as well as in the acknowledgements.

Tarapolsi invited the television audience of businesses to donate/sponsor an art piece (\$500 per piece) and outlined these benefits to the business:

- Free publicity in the brochures, which are circulated throughout the Eastside
- Can be part of selection of their piece
- Plaque that says their name
- Expensive art piece in front of their business for one year
- At the end of the year, they may buy the piece or renew sponsorship for a difference piece

Money donated goes toward the artist honorarium (not RAC). Donations are tax deductible for the business. Each business will be located on the ROS map, bringing them public exposure. The Hotel/Motel tourism funding will show businesses that money is being brought in to Redmond.

Bettencourt concurred the project has become a City-wide program that should be recognized by decision-makers within the City. She acknowledged Tarapolsi's efforts in gaining feedback from City Council and department heads, and hoped the program could be managed as it should be. Bettencourt commended Tarapolsi for a very big job well done, praising her for her efforts and accomplishments as RAC curator.

Innes will meet on Wednesday with Skillingstead, Bettencourt, and Tarapolsi to develop a plan to transition. Leban volunteered to also help. Schmidt also reminded Innes that the entire Visual Arts Committee would be available for help also.

2. Committee Meeting Report (E-mailed)

None

B. Funding/Marketing

None

C. New Business

None

D. Staff Reports

1. Firefighter's Bench Status

Skillingstead reported that the Redmond Rotary donated \$10,000 to purchase the Fire Station bench. Houghton, Schmidt and Skillingstead will do a studio visit on Monday to artist Michelle Van Slyke's to view 50% of the work she has done on the bench. It will be installed at the Fire Station plaza after September 23. October 9, 1:00 p.m., is the dedication of the bench, which will complete the plaza. Skillingstead showed slides of the invitation to the dedication.

2. Perrigo Park Art Installation Complete

Skillingstead reported that all the artwork has been installed at Perrigo Park. The plaque and signage are now being worked on. There are still some questions regarding the artwork and maintenance, which staff is working on as well. There are 93 pieces of art in all.

3. New City Hall Glass Artist – Ed Carpenter and Garage Artist Selection Status

Chair Teller represented RAC on the selection panel that chose Ed Carpenter, glass artist, for the new City Hall. Skillingstead showed slides of some of his artwork.

Houghton represented RAC on the garage art selection panel, and announced the three finalists (and alternate) that were chosen:

- Blue McRight/Warren Wagner
- Julie Mihalisin/Philip Walling
- Brad A. Miller (who was also a Fire Station 11 semi finalist)
- Julie Berger as the alternate

A meeting date of September 17 is scheduled for interviews and a final selection.

Houghton will report the decision at the October RAC meeting. Skillingstead noted that 4Culture is administrating the project, and they would come to an RAC meeting and do a presentation update for both art projects.

4. Miscellaneous Updates

Skillingstead showed slides with the following updates:

- **Annual Report:**

- Has been completed (slide of cover shown).
- Ready to present to City Council at their next meeting as Items from the Audience.
- Will be sent out in a mailing in the near future.
- **ORSCC gallery:**
 - Postcards of the next gallery showing are ready for mailing.
 - Next artists will display between October 2 and December 4 (pieces are for sale).
- **Green Fluorescent Protein ROS art sculpture**
 - Re-installation will occur on Friday, September 9, at the new location on Redmond Way and 161st.

IX. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

A. Discussion

1. RAC Meeting Theme

Tarapolsi thanked everyone who participated in this meeting's "Orange" theme, and named Bettencourt as the winner. Bettencourt chose next month's theme:

- **Harvest and Surprises (Trick or Treat)**

2. Fire Station Plaza Bench Dedication Official

Teller announced he will not be present to officiate at the October 9th bench dedication. *Vice Chair Tarapolsi and Leban volunteered to officiate in his absence. Skillingstead will provide a script.*

B. Correspondence

None

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by: Commissioner Schmidt

Second by: Commissioner Tarapolsi

Motion carried: 8-0 unanimous

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Recording Secretary, Pam Maybee

NEXT REDMOND ARTS COMMISSION MEETING:

**October 14, 2004
Old Fire House Teen Center
7:00 p.m.**

Redmond Arts Commission

Meeting: September 9, 2004

Audience Present

Please note: Information provided at this public meeting becomes part of the City's permanent record.

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
Jenna Robinson	16823 NE 91 st St Redmond	425-883-8995
Miguel Llanos	10601 184 th Ave NE Redmond	425-869-9806